

# PRO

2. An admonisher; a reminder.  
We understand our duty without a teacher, and acquit ourselves as we ought to do without a *prompter*. *L'Estrange*.  
**PROMPTITUDE**. *n. f.* [from *promptus*, Fr. from *promptus*, Lat.] Readiness; quickness.  
**PROMPTLY**. *adv.* [from *promptus*.] Readily; quickly; expeditiously.  
He that does his merchandise cheerfully, *promptly* and readily, and the works of religion slowly, it is a sign that his heart is not right with God. *Taylor*.  
**PROMPTNESS**. *n. f.* [from *promptus*.] Readiness; quickness; alacrity.  
Had not this stop been given him by that accidental sickness, his great courage and *promptness* of mind would have carried him directly forward to the enemy, till he had met him in the open plains of Persia. *South's Sermons*.  
Firm and rigid muscles, strong pulse, activity, and *promptness* in animal actions, are signs of strong fibres. *Arbutnot*.  
**PROMPTURE**. *n. f.* [from *promptus*.] Suggestion; motion given by another; instigation. A word not used.  
Though he hath fallen by *prompture* of the blood; Yet hath he in him such a mind of honour, That had he twenty heads to tender down On twenty bloody blocks, he'd yield them up. *Shakspeare*.  
**PROMPTUARY**. *n. f.* [from *promptuarius*, Fr. *promptuarium*, Lat.] A storehouse; a repository; a magazine.  
This *promptuary* is still expanded at top, serving as the seminary or *promptuary*, that furnisheth forth matter for the formation of animal and vegetable bodies. *Woodward*.  
**TO PROMULGATE**. *v. a.* [from *promulgare*, Lat.] To publish; to make known by open declaration.  
Those albeit I know he nothing so much hateth as to *promulgate*, yet I hope that this will occasion him to put forth divers other goodly works. *Spenser*.  
Those, to whom he entrusted the *promulgating* of the gospel, had far different instructions. *Decay of Piety*.  
It is certain laws, by virtue of any sanction they receive from the *promulgated* will of the legislature, reach not a stranger, if by the law of nature every man hath not a power to punish offences against it. *Locke*.  
**PROMULGATION**. *n. f.* [from *promulgatio*, Lat. from *promulgare*.] Publication; open exhibition.  
The stream and current of this rule hath gone as far, it hath continued as long as the very *promulgation* of the gospel. *Hooker*, b. v. f. 42.  
The very *promulgation* of the punishment will be part of the punishment, and anticipate the execution. *South*.  
**PROMULGATOR**. *n. f.* [from *promulgator*.] Publisher; open teacher.  
How groundless a calumny this is, appears from the fanciness of the christian religion, which excludes fraud and falsehood; so also from the designments and aims of its first *promulgators*. *Decay of Piety*.  
**TO PROMULGE**. *v. a.* [from *promulgo*, Lat.] To promulgate; to publish; to teach openly.  
The chief design of them is, to establish the truth of a new revelation in those countries, where it is first *promulgated* and propagated. *Atterbury*.  
**PROMULGER**. *n. f.* [from *promulger*.] Publisher; promulgator.  
The *promulgers* of our religion, Jesus Christ and his apostles, raised men and women from the dead, not once only, but often. *Atterbury*.  
**PRONATOR**. *n. f.* In anatomy, a muscle of the radius, of which there are two, that help to turn the palm downwards. *Ditt*.  
**PRONE**. *adj.* [from *pronus*, Latin.]  
1. Bending downward; not erect.  
There wanted yet a creature not *prone*, And brute as other creatures, but indu'd With faculty of reason, might erect His stature, and upright with front serene Govern the rest. *Milton's Par. Lost*, b. vii.  
2. Lying with the face downwards; contrary to supine.  
Upon these three positions in man, wherein the spine can only be at right lines with the thigh, arise those postures, *prone*, supine and erect. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*.  
3. Precipitous; headlong; going downwards.  
Down thither *prone* in flight He speeds, and through the vast ethereal sky Sails between worlds. *Milton's Par. Lost*, b. v.  
4. Declivous; sloping.  
Since the floods demand, For their descent, a *prone* and sinking land: Does not this due declivity declare A wife director's providential care? *Blackmore*.  
5. Inclined; propense; disposed. It has commonly an ill sense.  
The labour of doing good, with the pleasure arising from the contrary, doth make men for the most part flower to the one and *prone* to the other, than that duty, prescribed them by law, can prevail sufficiently with them. *Hooker*.  
Those who are ready to confess him in judgment and professedness, are very *prone* to deny him shamefully in their doings. *South's Sermons*.

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If we are *prone* to sedition, and delight in change, there is no cure more proper than trade, which supplies business to the active, and wealth to the indigent. *Addison*.  
Still *prone* to change, though fill the slaves of state. *Pope*.  
**PRONENESS**. *n. f.* [from *prone*.]  
1. The state of bending downwards; not erectness.  
If erectness be taken, as it is largely opposed unto *proneness*, or the posture of animals looking downwards, carrying their venters, or opposite part to the spine, directly towards the earth, it may admit of question. *Brown's Vulg. Errors*.  
2. The state of lying with the face downwards; not supineness.  
3. Descent; declivity.  
4. Inclination; propension; disposition to ill.  
The holy spirit saw that mankind is unto virtue hardly drawn, and that righteousness is the less accounted of, by reason of the *proneness* of our affections to that which delighteth. *Hooker*, b. v. f. 8.  
The soul being first from nothing brought, When God's grace fails her, doth to nothing fall; And this declining *proneness* unto nought, Is ev'n that fin that we are born withal. *Davies*.  
He instituted this way of worship, because of the carnality of their hearts, and their *proneness* of the people to idolatry. *Tilley's Sermon*.  
The *proneness* of good men to commiserate want, in whatsoever shape it appears. *Atterbury's Sermon*.  
How great is the *proneness* of our nature, to comply with this temptation. *Rogers's Sermon*.  
**PRONG**. *n. f.* [from *pronghen*, Dutch, to squeeze. *Amshew*.] A fork.  
The cooks make no more ado, but slicing it into little gobbets, prick it on a *prong* of iron, and hang it in a furnace. *Saunders's Journey*.  
Whacum his sea-coal *prong* threw by, And bafely turn'd his back to fly. *Hudibras*.  
Be mindful, With iron teeth of rakes and *prongs* to move The crusted earth. *Dryden's Virg. Georg.*  
**PRONITY**. *n. f.* [from *prone*.] Proneness. A word not used.  
Of this mechanic *privity*, I do not see any good tendency. *Mary's Divine Dialogues*.  
**PRONOUN**. *n. f.* [from *pronomen*, Fr. *pronomen*, Lat.]  
I, thou, he, we, ye, they, are names given to persons, and used instead of their proper names, from whence they had the name of *pronouns*, as though they were not nouns themselves, but used instead of nouns. *Clarke's Lat. Gram.*  
**TO PRONOUNCE**. *v. a.* [from *pronuncio*, Fr. *pronuncio*, Lat.]  
1. To speak; to utter.  
He *pronounced* all these words unto me with his mouth. *Jer. xxxvi. 18.*  
2. To utter solemnly; to utter confidently.  
She  
So good a lady, that no tongue could ever  
Pronounce dishonour of her. *Shakspeare*, *Henry VIII.*  
I have *pronounced* the word, faith the Lord. *Jer. xxxiv. 5.*  
So was his will  
Pronounc'd among the gods. *Milton*.  
Sternly he *pronounced* the rigid interdiction.  
The *pronouncing* of sentence of death is the office of inferior magistrates. *Locke*.  
Abbasom *pronounced* a sentence of death against his brother. *Locke*.  
3. To form or articulate by the organs of speech.  
Language of man *pronounced*  
By tongue of brute, and human sense express'd. *Milton*.  
Though diversity of tongues continue, this would render the *pronouncing* them easier. *Held*.  
4. To utter rhetorically.  
**TO PRONOUNCE**. *v. n.* To speak with confidence or authority.  
How confidently forever men *pronounce* of themselves, and believe that they are then most pious, when they are most eager and unquiet; yet 'tis sure this is far removed from the true genius of religion.  
Every fool may believe, and *pronounce* confidently; but wife men will, in matters of discourse, conclude firmly, and in matters of fact, act fairly. *South's Sermons*.  
**PRONOUNCER**. *n. f.* [from *pronuncio*.] One who pronounces.  
The *pronouncer* thereof shall be condemned in expences. *Ayliffe's Paragon*.  
**PRONUNCIATION**. *n. f.* [from *pronunciatio*, from *pronuncio*, Lat. *pronunciatio*, Fr.] The act or mode of utterance.  
The design of speaking being to communicate our thoughts by ready, easy and graceful *pronunciation*, all kind of letters have been searched out, that were serviceable for the purpose. *Held*.  
It were easy to produce thousands of his verses, which are lame for want of half a foot, sometimes a whole one, and which no *pronunciation* can make otherwise. *Dryden*.  
**PROOF**.

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**PROOF**. *n. f.* [from *probo*.]  
1. Evidence; testimony; convincing token; convincing argument; means of conviction.  
That they all have always so testified, I see not how we should possibly with a *proof* more palpable than this. *Hooker*.  
This has neither evidence of truth, nor *proof* sufficient to give it warrant. *Hooker*.  
Though the manner of their trials should be altered, yet the *proof* of every thing must needs be by the testimony of such persons as the parties shall produce. *Spenser*.  
That which I shall report will bear no credit, Were not the *proof* so high. *Shakspeare*.  
One soul in both, whereof good *proof* This day affords. *Milton*.  
This, vers'd in death, th' infernal knight relates, And then for *proof* fulfill'd their common fates. *Dryden*.  
Those intervening ideas, which serve to shew the agreement of any two others, are called *proofs*. *Locke*.  
2. Test; trial; experiment.  
Retire or taste thy folly, and learn by *proof*, Hell-born! not to contend with spirits of heav'n. *Milton*.  
This day to Dagon is a solemn feast, Thy strength they know surpassing human race, And now some public *proof* thereof require To honour this great feast. *Milton's Agonistes*.  
When the imagination hath contrived the frame of such an instrument, and conceives that the event must infallibly answer its hopes, yet then does it strangely deceive in the *proof*. *Wilkins's Math. Magic*.  
Gave, while he taught, and edify'd the more, Because he shew'd, by *proof*, 'twas easy to be poor. *Dryden*.  
My paper gives a timorous writer an opportunity of putting his abilities to the *proof*. *Addison*.  
Sad *proof* how well a lover can obey, Here for ever must I stay, Firm temper; impenetrability; the state of being wrought and hardened, till the expected strength is found by trial to be attained.  
Add *proof* unto mine armour with thy prayers, And with thy blessings steel my lance's point: To me the cries of fighting fields are charms, Keen be my sabre, and of *proof* my arms; I ask no other blessing of my stars. *Dryden*.  
With arms of *proof*, both for myself and thee, Chuse thou the best. *Dryden*.  
4. Armour hardened till it will abide a certain trial.  
He Bellona's bridegroom, lapt in *proof*, Confronted him. *Shakspeare*, *Macbeth*.  
**PROOF**. *adj.* [This word, though used as an adjective, is only elliptically put for *proof*.]  
1. Impenetrable; able to resist.  
Now put your shields before your hearts, and fight With hearts more *proof* than shields. *Shakspeare*.  
Opportunity I here have had To try thee, fit thee, and confess have found thee *Proof* against all temptation, as a rock Of adamant. *Milton's Par. Regain'd*.  
He past expression lov'd, *Proof* to disdain, and not to be remov'd. *Dryden*.  
When the mind is thoroughly tinctured, the man will be *proof* against all oppositions. *Collier*.  
Guileless of hate, and *proof* against desire; That all things weighs, and nothing can admire. *Dryden*.  
When a capuchin, that was thought *proof* against bribes, had undertaken to carry on the work, he died a little after. *Addison*.  
2. It has either *to* or *against* before the power to be resisted.  
Imagin'd wife, Constant, mature, *proof* against all assaults. *Milton*.  
Deep in the snowy Alps, a lump of ice By frost was harden'd to a mighty price; *Proof* to the sun it now securely lies, And the warm dog-star's hottest rage defies. *Addison*.  
The God of day, To make him *proof* against the burning ray, His temples with celestial ointment wet. *Addison*.  
**PROOFLESS**. *adj.* [from *proof*.] Unproved; wanting evidence.  
Some were so manifestly weak and *proofless*, that he must be a very courteous adversary, that can grant them. *Boyle*.  
**TO PROVE**. *v. a.* [from *probo*, Dutch.]  
1. To support by something placed under or against.  
What we by day Lop overgrown, or *proof*, or bind, One night derides. *Milton*.  
2. To support by standing under or against.  
Like these earth unsupported keeps its place, Though no fix bottom *proofs* the weighty mass. *Grech*.  
Eternal snows the growing mass supply, Till the bright mountains *proof* th' incumbent sky; As Atlas fix'd each hoary pile appears. *Pope*.

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3. To sustain; to support.  
The nearer I find myself verging to that period, which is to be labour and sorrow, the more I *prop* myself upon those few supports that are left me. *Pope*.  
**PROP**. *n. f.* [from *proppa*, Dutch.] A support; a stay; that on which any thing rests.  
The boy was the very staff of my age, my very *prop*. *Shakspeare*.  
You take my house, when you do take the *prop*. That doth sustain my house; you take my life, When you do take the means whereby I live. *Shakspeare*.  
Some plants creep along the ground, or wind about other trees or *props*, and cannot support themselves. *Bacon*.  
That he might on many *props* repose, He strengthens his own, and who his part did take. *Daniel*.  
Again, if by the body's *prop* we stand, If on the body's life, her life depend, As Meleager's on the fatal brand, The body's good the only would intend. *Davies*.  
Fairfelt unsupported flower From her belt *prop* so far. *Milton*.  
The current of his vict'ries found no stop, Till Cromwell came, his party's chiefest *prop*. *Waller*.  
'Twas a considerable time before the great fragments that fell rested in a firm posture; for the *props* and stays, whereby they leaned one upon another, often failed. *Barnet*.  
The *prop* return  
Into thy house, that bore the burden'd vines. *Dryden*.  
**PROPAGABLE**. *adj.* [from *propagare*.] Such as may be spread; such as may be continued by succession.  
Such creatures as are produced each by its peculiar seed, constitute a distinct *propagable* sort of creatures. *Boyle*.  
**TO PROPAGATE**. *v. a.* [from *propago*, Latin.]  
1. To continue or spread by generation or successive production.  
All that I eat, or drink, or shall beget, Is *propagated* curse! *Milton's Par. Lost*, b. x.  
Is it an elder brother's duty lo To *propagate* his family and name; You would not have yours die and buried with you? *Orway*.  
From hills and dales the cheerful cries rebound; For echo hunts along, and *propagates* the sound. *Dryden*.  
2. To extend; to widen.  
I have upon a high and pleasant hill Feign'd fortune to be thron'd: the bafe o' th' mount Is rank'd with all defects, all kind of natures, That labour on the bottom of this sphere To *propagate* their states. *Shakspeare*, *Timon of Athens*.  
3. To carry on from place to place; to promote.  
Some have thought the *propagating* of religion by arms not only lawful, but meritorious. *Decay of Piety*.  
Who are those that truth must *propagate*, Within the confines of my father's state. *Dryden*.  
Those who seek truth only, and desire to *propagate* nothing else, freely expose their principles to the test. *Locke*.  
Because dense bodies confer their heat a long time, and the densest bodies confer their heat the longest, the vibrations of their parts are of a lasting nature; and therefore may be *propagated* along solid fibres of uniform dense matter to a great distance, for conveying into the brain the impressions made upon all the organs of sense. *Newton*.  
4. To encrease; to promote.  
Griefs of mine own life heavy in my breast, Which thou wilt *propagate*, to have them prest With more of thine. *Shakspeare*.  
Sooth'd with his future fame, And pleas'd to hear his *propagated* name. *Dryden*.  
5. To generate.  
Superstitious notions, *propagated* in fancy, are hardly ever totally eradicated. *Clarissa*.  
**TO PROPAGATE**. *v. n.* To have offspring.  
No need that thou Should'st *propagate*, already infinite, And through all numbers absolute, though one. *Milton*.  
**PROPAGATION**. *n. f.* [from *propagatio*, Lat. *propagation*, Fr. from *propagare*.] Continuance or diffusion by generation or successive production.  
Men have souls rather by creation than *propagation*. *Hookers*.  
There are other secondary ways of the *propagation* of it, as lying in the same bed. *Wifeman's Surgery*.  
There is not in all nature any spontaneous generation, but all come by *propagation*, wherein chance hath not the least part. *Ray on the Creation*.  
Old stakes of olive trees in plants revives But nobler vines by *propagation* thrive. *Dryden*.  
**PROPAGATOR**. *n. f.* [from *propagator*.]  
1. One who continues by successive production.  
2. A spreader; a promoter.  
Socrates, the greatest *propagator* of morality, and a martyr for the unity of the Godhead, was so famous for this talent, that he gained the name of the Drole. *Addison*.  
**TO PROPEL**. *v. a.* [from *propello*, Lat.] To drive forward.  
Avicen witnesses the blood to be frothy, that is *propelled* out of a vein of the breast. *Harvey*.  
This